

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15-18 are pending in this application, all of which have been allowed.

Claim 14 has been canceled. No new claims have been added.

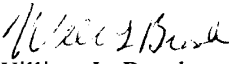
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-13 and 15-18, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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